Outdoor sports facilities

Introduction and definition

8.1 PPG 17 guidance considers the provision of both indoor and outdoor sports facilities. For clarity, these amenities are separated into two distinct typologies within this document. This section considers the provision of outdoor sports facilities across Hull.

8.2 Outdoor sports facilities are a wide-ranging category of open space which includes both natural and artificial surfaces for sport and recreation that are either publicly or privately owned.

8.3 Facilities included within this category are:

- playing pitches (including football, rugby, cricket, hockey)
- synthetic turf pitches
- tennis courts
- bowling greens
- athletics tracks.

8.4 Outdoor sports facilities are often a focal point of a local community, functioning as a recreational and amenity resource in addition to a formal sports facility. This is particularly true of pitches, which often have a secondary function of a local dog walking and ball kickabout area. In Hull, many recreation grounds double up as local parks. The Phase 1 habitat surveys which were carried out across the city indicated that several sites where the primary purpose is the provision of sports facilities are also important in terms of the habitats they offer and the species that are present.

8.5 Private facilities and sports clubs play a crucial role in the provision of outdoor sports facilities in Hull and several large clubs provide opportunities for player progression from a young age through to veterans.

8.6 While this PPG17 study provides a strategic overview of existing provision of outdoor sports facilities and future priorities across Hull, in light of the demand-led nature of outdoor sports facilities, specific studies should be carried out relating to each type of facility.

8.7 There are many opportunities for the improvement of facilities across Hull City Council, particularly capitalising on the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme which will see significant improvements to the quality of some existing sites as well as new provision.

8.8 The effective provision of formal and informal facilities for sports will be instrumental if participation in Hull is to increase in line with national and local targets at a rate of 1% a year. This will place greater demand on the facility stock and emphasise the need to ensure that facilities are fit for purpose.
Context

Active People Survey results

8.9 The Active People Survey 2006 (the Survey) was a survey of adults aged 16 and over living in England. The Survey gathered data on the type, duration and intensity of people's participation in different types of sport and active recreation, as well as information about volunteering, club membership (member of a club where they play sport), people receiving tuition from an instructor or coach, participation in competitive sport and satisfaction with local sports provision.

8.10 Hull was recorded as having a participation rate of 18.1%, which, as shown in figure 8.1 below, is below the national average and places the city in the bottom 25% for participation (3 x 30 minutes sport and active recreation). As illustrated by the red line, participation in Hull is significantly below the benchmark for the worst performing 25% of authorities. This suggests that there is considerable opportunity to improve.

Figure 8.1 – Participation rates within Hull

8.11 Hull falls within the Humber Sports Partnership, which is in the Yorkshire Sport England region. Table 8.1 overleaf shows the results of the 2006 Active People Survey to allow comparison between the city, neighbouring local authorities, county and regional and national averages.
Table 8.1 – Selected results from the Active People’s Survey 2006 for Hull

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographical area</th>
<th>At least 3 days a week x 30 minutes moderate participation (all adults) %</th>
<th>Taken part in organised competitive sport in last 12 months (all adults) %</th>
<th>Satisfied with local sports provision (all adults) %</th>
<th>At least one recreational walk lasting 30 minutes at moderate intensity (all adults) %</th>
<th>At least one recreational cycle lasting 30 minutes at moderate intensity (all adults) %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>68.3</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humber (CSP)</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>70.5</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Riding</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>72.5</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>12.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeds</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>69.3</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selby</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>66.0</td>
<td>66.1</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>62.2</td>
<td>75.2</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingston upon Hull</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>72.9</td>
<td>64.1</td>
<td>15.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.12 As table 8.1 above shows, when compared to national, regional and neighbouring results, Hull scores poorly in terms of participation (3x30), taking part in organised competitive sport and recreational walking.

8.13 Surprisingly, given the low participation rate (3x30), 72.9% of people in Hull are satisfied with their local provision, which places the local authority in the upper middle quartile, and shows a higher satisfaction than the neighbouring authorities.

8.14 Figure 8.2 overleaf shows that Hull has comparable levels of participation for various socio-economic groups to both regional and national figures.
The analysis of data from the Active People survey therefore demonstrates that on the whole, participation in Hull is below the national and regional averages. Alternative opportunities for participation in physical activity can contribute to an increase in the proportion of people participating in sport and physical activity and play a role in ensuring that Hull meets national and local targets for participation growth.

**Market Segmentation**

Sport England has developed nineteen sporting segments to help us understand the nation’s attitudes and motivations – why they play sport and why they don’t. This is particularly important to understand in order to ensure that the facilities in Hull cater for the needs and expectations of local residents.

The research builds on the results of Sport England’s Active People Survey, the Department of Culture, Media and Sport’s Taking Part survey and the Mosaic tool from Experian. It informs Sport England’s Strategy and Business Plan 2008-2011 and helps ensure that money is invested into areas that will have the greatest impact.

Residents are classified according to their key characteristics. Figure 8.3 shows the proportion of each of the nineteen segments in the Hull (the blue bars) set against the regional (the red bars), County Sport Partnership (the yellow bars) and national average (the green dots).
8.19 As highlighted in the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy, 57% of residents in Hull fall into groups that are less likely to participate. This compares to 40.7% of residents nationally.

8.20 Analysis of the dominant market segments in Hull can provide an indication as to the type of facilities that may be required if certain groups are to become active. The key characteristics of some of the dominant population groups in Hull are illustrated in Table 8.2 overleaf.

8.21 It can be seen that ‘Elsie and Arnold’ (segment 19) appear to be the most dominant group throughout the city. ‘Kev’ (segment 9) and ‘Jamie’ (segment 2) are the other two main sectors. The proportion of residents considered to be ‘Terry’ (segment 15) is 5% above the national average.
### Table 8.2 – Dominant market segments in Hull

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elsie and Arnold (Segment 19)</td>
<td>66+</td>
<td>Widowed Retired</td>
<td>Health problems and disability being major inhibitors to activity. Those that do participate tend towards low intensity activities, such as walking, bowls or dancing (traditional ballroom), safe environments would encourage this group to walk more often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kev (Segment 9)</td>
<td>36–49</td>
<td>Married/Single May have children Vocational</td>
<td>May be part of a social club that involves physical activity. Enjoys team sports, especially football and low intensity social activities. Better playing facilities and cheaper entry may encourage participation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamie (Segment 2)</td>
<td>18–25</td>
<td>Single Vocational Student</td>
<td>Second highest participation rate of all types. Enjoys playing team sports, especially football. Combat sports, social activities and weight training may appeal to these people. Motivation for participation includes improving performance and being with friends. Enhanced local sports facilities would encourage participation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula (Segment 10)</td>
<td>26–35</td>
<td>Single Job seeker or part time low skilled</td>
<td>Least active of all in this group. Unlikely to have membership to a fitness or sports club, but may take part in exercise classes. Enjoys low intensity social activities such as ten pin bowling, Motivations to participate include to lose weight and accompany children. General disinterest in participating, however improved transport, help with childcare and reduced admission would encourage participation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry (Segment 15)</td>
<td>56–65</td>
<td>Single/Married Low skilled worker Job seeker</td>
<td>Participates in some physical activity, usually in the form of lower intensity sports that can accommodate health problems and low income. Unlikely to be member of a health and fitness club. Main motivations to participate are to help with injuries and to meet friends. People to go with would encourage participation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Strategic context

Regional

Our Region, Our Health

8.22 The report aims to support the Yorkshire and Humber regional framework for health, providing recommendations and suggestions for action both to improve health and to reduce inequalities.

8.23 The report highlights the comparatively poor quality of health of people living within the Yorkshire and Humber region, noting particularly the high levels of preventable ill health, long term illness and premature deaths.

8.24 Key areas contributing to this poor health including alcohol abuse, smoking, poor diet, sedentary lifestyle and stress are highlighted, and specific recommendations relating to each area are discussed. Links between housing, education, community safety, economic generation and health are also explored.

8.25 The report and associated recommendations reinforce the importance of physical activity. Recommendations of particular relevance to this open space, sport and recreation study include:

- to promote the benefits of physical activity on a regional basis
- to create a regional strategic partnership to ensure a co-ordinated approach to attract and retain more public and private sector investment in physical activity
- to implement regular monitoring, including levels of smoking, diet and physical activity
- to focus investment on increasing physical activity in the region
- to develop a coordinated approach to attract and retain more public and private investment in physical activity.

Yorkshire Plan for Sport

8.26 The Yorkshire Plan for Sport sets out the regional context based on the key objectives formulated through Game Plan. The main regional priorities outlined in the plan are to:

- improve health and well-being
- increase participation
- improve levels of performance
- widen access
- create stronger and safer communities
- improve education.
8.27 As a consequence of this adopted plan, the Council has the responsibility of becoming a partner agency in the delivery of these priorities ensuring that the framework of the Yorkshire Plan for Sport filters through into local sport and leisure strategy planning.

8.28 Good quality pitch provision will be essential in implementing the plan. The apparent national and regional ‘bottom up’ approach to sports development requires a general improvement in grass roots and community facilities. It helps young people to succeed in life and develop close links between schools and sports clubs, creating a better and more positive local community.

**Strategic Context**

8.29 The regional framework for the delivery of sports facilities in Hull is set by Sport England Yorkshire, as summarised in Section Three. The Hull Sport and Physical Activity Strategy is the key local document impacting on the provision of outdoor sports facilities within the city.

8.30 The key issues arising from a review of the strategic context which influence the provision of sports facilities include:

- there are national and regional targets to increase participation at a rate of 1% per annum – these will impact on the supply and demand for facilities
- increase the contribution of sport and active recreation to overall levels of physical activity – this includes maximising the roles of parks and other open spaces as well as building on formal sports participation
- reduce the participation gap and increase voluntary and community sector involvement.

8.31 The provision of outdoor sports facilities is therefore central to the achievement of the above priorities as well as contributing to the delivery of wider local and regional objectives.

**Consultation – Assessing Local Needs**

8.32 Consultation undertaken as part of the study highlighted that:

- 58% of respondents to the household survey do not use outdoor sports facilities; however 20% of residents state they use this type of facility at least once a week. This reinforces the specialist nature of these facilities and is reflective of a participation rate similar to that suggested by the 2006 Active People Survey
- despite some concerns over quantity, the majority of residents with a view on the provision of outdoor sports facilities focus on the quality and access of outdoor sport provision in Hull. This viewpoint was also clear at the HDF workshop
- the importance of outdoor sports facilities is emphasised by respondents to the young people’s survey, with 18% of respondents stating that a sports pitch is their favourite type of provision (second highest overall). This reinforces the role of this type of facility in encouraging active recreation
In light of the specific nature of this typology, the views of sports clubs and other sport specific consultees are particularly important. A variety of issues are raised relating to both the quality and quantity of provision.

8.33 In addition to facility related issues, several other opportunities and issues were also highlighted by clubs including:

- the importance of including a variety of sports within the school curriculum
- the benefits of receiving assistance and support with regards funding bids
- the need to continue to promote and support coaching and volunteering
- the need to begin the development of facilities at a grass roots level and work upwards.

**Quantity of provision**

8.34 The quantity of outdoor sports facilities across Hull is summarised in Table 8.7 below. Calculations exclude large sites such as golf courses which could skew the figures. Consideration will be given to the specific type of facility provided during the application of local standards.

**Table 8.7 – Provision of outdoor sports facilities across Hull**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Current provision (hectares)</th>
<th>Number of sites</th>
<th>Smallest site (hectares)</th>
<th>Largest site (hectares)</th>
<th>Scenario a provision per 1000 population (2026)</th>
<th>Scenario b provision per 1000 population (2026)</th>
<th>Scenario c provision per 1000 population (2026)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>60.52</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>10.96</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>1.59</td>
<td>1.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>116.36</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>24.04</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>3.46</td>
<td>3.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carr</td>
<td>52.53</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>9.93</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td>1.85</td>
<td>1.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park</td>
<td>58.14</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>7.98</td>
<td>1.31</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>1.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>33.68</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>8.86</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>0.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>57.75</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>16.40</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyke</td>
<td>50.42</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>13.80</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>1.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td><strong>429.40</strong></td>
<td><strong>170</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.06</strong></td>
<td><strong>24.04</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.70</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.65</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.61</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.35 The key issues emerging from Table 8.7 and consultations relating to the quantity of outdoor sports facilities across the city are as follows:
in total, the provision of outdoor sports facilities across the city equates to 429.40 hectares. This is spread across 170 sites including school facilities

as may be expected, in light of the broad range of typologies included within the outdoor sports facilities category, the size of sites ranges from 0.06 hectares to 24.04 hectares

the household survey indicates that overall, residents believe that the provision of outdoor sports facilities is sufficient to meet demand

18% of respondents to the IT young people’s survey identify playing sport outdoors as their favourite activity, making it the second most popular activity for young people. Despite this, 37% of respondents state that there aren’t enough outdoor sports facilities in their local area. Additionally, 32% of respondents to the IT children’s survey state that there are some outdoor sports facilities but there could be more

a greater proportion of respondents to the sports club survey feel that the quantity of provision is sufficient (27%) rather than poor (22%). This suggests that quality is more important than quantity

it can be seen that in terms of number of facilities, there is an uneven distribution across the area boundaries, ranging from 18 facilities in West to 32 in Northern. Analysis of outdoor sports facilities in terms of hectares per 1000 demonstrates that provision in Riverside is lowest per 1000 population. This is reflective of the varying size of different outdoor sports facilities

drop-in session attendees do not reveal any immediate concerns with the number of outdoor sports facilities available within Hull. Overall, the quantity of provision is considered to be sufficient and residents emphasise the large number of sports clubs in the city

some concerns with regards the quantity of facilities were raised at the sports club workshop. Some clubs indicated that there were insufficient pitches of appropriate quality and that teams were forced to travel outside Hull.

8.36 In addition to the sites identified in Table 8.7, 12 sites, equating to 3.65 hectares, have been classified as school multi-purpose sports facilities. These sites have been excluded from quantity calculations as they predominantly serve the purpose of a playground. However, these sites do also offer a form of sporting value and can serve a valuable function in areas of deficiency.

8.37 Golf courses are also excluded from calculations in light of their potential to artificially skew standards due to their size.

8.38 In order to evaluate the supply of outdoor sports facilities in more detail, Table 8.8 breaks down outdoor sports facilities into different facility types.
### Table 8.8 – Specific sports facilities across Hull

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee area</th>
<th>Pitch sites</th>
<th>Tennis Courts</th>
<th>Bowling Greens</th>
<th>Athletics tracks</th>
<th>Synthetic pitches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carr</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyke</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.39 It can be seen that:

- the majority of sports facilities in Hull are fairly evenly distributed across six of the seven areas, however the North Carr area contains significantly fewer types of outdoor sports facilities than other areas of the city, with only grass pitches found in this area.

- of the five facility types surveyed during the household survey, residents showed the greatest dissatisfaction with the quantity of tennis courts (43%) and synthetic turf pitches (28%), suggesting that there is a need for greater provision of these facilities. In contrast, residents perceive the provision of grass pitches (44%) to be about right. Although over 50% of residents had no opinion on the quantity of golf courses, (30%) appeared the quantity to be sufficient (more than enough or about right).

- when considering the level of satisfaction across the city, residents in the East area showed the highest level of dissatisfaction with three of the five types of sports facilities, stating that there is insufficient provision of grass pitches (29%), synthetic turf pitches (33%), golf courses (50%) and bowling greens (30%). Further consultation highlights issues with access (or perceived access) in this area. This is surprising however as it can be seen that the number of sites in this area of the city is high in comparison to other areas.

- residents in the Northern area display the highest level of satisfaction in two of the five types of sports facilities, suggesting that there is sufficient provision (enough/about right amount) of grass pitches (59%) and bowling greens (40%).
Although on the whole clubs indicate that quality was of greater importance than quantity, the main exception to this was cricket, where it was felt that a lack of facilities within the city has had a detrimental impact on the number of clubs in operation. Only four cricket clubs exist within the city boundary. Additionally, rugby clubs indicated that a lack of facilities means that they are forced to travel outside of the city boundary.

8.40 Consideration will be given to the quality of facilities later in this section.

**Active Places Power**

8.41 Active Places Power (a strategic planning tool provided by Sport England) enables the comparison of the provision of outdoor sports facilities with other areas.

8.42 As shown in Table 8.9 below, Hull compares favourably to the Yorkshire and Humber Region and the national levels of provision. Hull has more athletics tracks and synthetic turf pitches per 1000 population than both the national and regional levels. However, the provision per 1000 population of golf courses in Hull is substantially lower than the national and regional figures.

Table 8.9 – Outdoor sports provision per 1000 of the population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographical area</th>
<th>Athletics tracks/1000 population (lanes)</th>
<th>Golf courses/1000 population (holes)</th>
<th>STPs/1000 population (pitches)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and Humber Region</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hull</td>
<td><strong>0.06</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.15</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.05</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.43 The distribution of specific facilities will be considered later in this section as part of the application of standards.

**Setting provision standards – quantity**

8.44 The recommended local quantity standard for outdoor sports facilities has been derived from the local needs consultation and audit of provision and is summarised overleaf. Full justification for the local standard is provided within Appendix F.
SECTION 8 – OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

Quantity Standard (see Appendices E and F – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existing level of provision</th>
<th>Recommended standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.68 hectares per 1000</td>
<td>1.68 hectares per 1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Justification**

In reflecting the demands placed on outdoor sports, the nature of this standard, and the consultation findings, it is recommended that the standard is set at the existing level of provision. This reflects the overall focus on a need to improve access to existing provision rather than develop new facilities and to enhance the quality of sites. In many instances, facilities of improved quality will have a greater capacity than existing sites and as a consequence, will increase access to facilities in Hull. Despite this, it is clear from the results of the local consultation that there are demands being placed on grass pitches (rugby league and cricket) and a local perception that there are insufficient facilities for tennis. These specific areas of deficiency will be considered during the application of standards.

Golf courses have been removed from calculations due to their size and subsequent tendency to skew figures. Although many school sports sites are not accessible at the current time, they are identified as important resources. School facilities have been included within the calculation, to ensure that they are protected, or that alternative facilities are provided.

The Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and extended schools programmes may offer opportunities to address future shortfalls of provision and ensure additional facilities are available for community use. Additionally, the BSF programme offers a significant opportunity to enhance the quality of facilities provided. This may be critical if participation targets are achieved, particularly in terms of providing facilities for peak day activity.

**Current provision - quality**

8.45 The quality of existing outdoor sports facilities in the city was assessed through site visits and is set out in Table 8.9 overleaf. It is important to note that site assessments are conducted as a snapshot in time and are therefore reflective of the quality of the site on one specific day.

8.46 The quality scores are weighted according to the findings of the local consultation. Those elements that were highlighted through consultation as being a particularly important determinant of quality have been given a higher weighting to ensure that they have a greater influence on the overall quality score that each site achieves. The full rationale behind this approach is set out in Appendix G. The quality of both the playing surface and the ancillary accommodation were deemed to be particularly important for the provision of outdoor sports.

8.47 The site visits undertaken assess the outdoor sport site as a whole and do not specifically consider the degree to which a facility can be considered fit for purpose. Assessments considering this issue would be required as part of more detailed facility specific studies, for example a playing pitch strategy. Several sites were inaccessible (primarily schools).
### Table 8.9 – Quality of outdoor sports facilities across Hull

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Range of quality scores (%)</th>
<th>Average quality scores (%)</th>
<th>Lowest quality site</th>
<th>Highest quality site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>53–84</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Alderman Kneeshaw Bowls and tennis</td>
<td>Bellfield Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>34–92</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>Danepark Primary School</td>
<td>Haworth Park Playing Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carr</td>
<td>40–90</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>Ennerdale Playing Fields</td>
<td>St Andrews CE Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park</td>
<td>24–94</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Van Leer Playing Fields</td>
<td>St Richards RC Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>44–98</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>Former Riley Centre Grounds (South)</td>
<td>Peason Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>66–100</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>St Thomas Moore Primary School</td>
<td>Costello Stadium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyke</td>
<td>51–93</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>William Gee School</td>
<td>Kingston Bowling Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>24–100</td>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
<td>Costello Stadium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The key issues emerging from Table 8.9 and the consultation relating to the quality of outdoor sports facilities are as follows:

- 46% of respondents to the household survey regard the quality of outdoor sports facilities to be average and a further 31% of residents indicate that the quality of this type of open space is poor. This suggests that satisfaction with outdoor sports facilities is lower than other types of open space in Hull.
- The quality of outdoor sports facilities is average – good, with a mean score of 72%. These site assessments do not assess the degree to which the site is fit for purpose, but consider the overall value of the outdoor sports facility.
- The quality of sites is wide ranging with scores varying between 24% and 100%.
across the areas the average quality score of sites is similar, however the lowest quality outdoor sports facilities can be found in the North Carr area, where the average score of a site is 68%. This may be influenced by the fact that all sites in this area are grass pitches, which seem to be of lower quality than other facility types.

residents in the East area display a higher level of satisfaction with 30% of people stating that the quality of the facilities is good. Across the areas the modal response is average.

reflecting the findings of the household survey, the quality of facilities is the key concern for 59% of respondents to the sports club survey. 38% of respondents rate the quality of sports facilities as average, 24% feel they are good, and 21% state that facilities are of poor quality.

quality issues were also apparent at the sports club workshop, with pitch maintenance and ancillary accommodation being the key concerns (rugby league and football). West Hull is identified as having a number of poor quality pitches.

a split in opinion regarding the quality of outdoor sports facilities is evident when considering responses to the children’s IT survey, with 30% of children indicating facilities are clean, safe and nice to use while 32% feel that facilities are sometimes unclean with litter and could be improved.

46% of respondents to the young people’s survey identify that the quality of outdoor sports facilities is average and in need of improvement.

The value of outdoor sports facilities from a biodiversity perspective was highlighted as part of the Phase 1 site assessments. Ennerdale Playing Fields, Sutton Park Golf Course, Oak Road Playing Fields and Hymers College Grounds were recorded to have very high levels of diversity.

Some sites contained species outlined in the UK Biodiversity Plan and all contained some species / habitats that are listed within the Hull Biodiversity Plan.

The main habitats offered by sites containing outdoor sports facilities included hedgerows, ponds (particularly at the golf courses), freshwater, grasslands and woodlands. Reflecting the different environments that were assessed (for example although both outdoor sports facilities, golf courses are completely different to cricket pitches) a wide variety of species were found. Those commonly found included the house sparrow, hedge accentor, lichens, water voles, bats, skylark, housemartin and butterflies.

Setting provision standards – quality

The recommended local quality standard for outdoor sports facilities is summarised overleaf. Full justifications and consultation relating to the quality of provision for the local standard is provided within Appendix G. The standard highlights the key aspirations of local residents and current users of sports facilities. The aspirational standard is set at 80%.
Quality Standard (see Appendix G)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clean/litter free</td>
<td>Facilities for the young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well kept grass</td>
<td>Toilets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking facilities</td>
<td>On site security</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Detailed analysis of the local consultation suggests that with regards to outdoor sports facilities, the relative importance of the key components is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component of quality</th>
<th>Proportion of possible total</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security and Safety</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleanliness and maintenance</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ancillary accommodation</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Setting provision standards – accessibility

8.53 The accessibility of sites is paramount in maximising usage as well as providing an opportunity for all people to use the site. The recommended local standard is set in the form of a distance threshold and is derived directly from the findings of the local consultations.

8.54 The preferred method of travel to four of the five facilities was on foot. Only when accessing golf courses did respondents indicate that they preferred to travel by car. This is reflective of the low levels of car ownership.

8.55 Due to the high number of outdoor sports facilities and sports clubs, accessibility was generally perceived to be good by attendees at drop-in sessions. However, charges for accessing school facilities have a detrimental effect on the number of residents playing competitive sport.

8.56 Respondents to the sports club workshop highlighted that cost issues were problematic when accessing outdoor sports facilities. The cost was also raised as the most significant barrier to usage during the sports club survey. Sports clubs also stated that access to facilities at peak times is problematic.

8.57 The recommended local accessibility standard for outdoor sports facilities is summarised below. Full justification for the local standard is provided within Appendix H. The standard reflects the aspiration that pitches will be provided in close proximity to the home.
Accessibility Standard (see Appendix H)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 MINUTE WALK TIME = GRASS PITCHES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 MINUTE WALK TIME = TENNIS COURTS, BOWLING GREENS, SYNTHETIC TURF PITCHES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 MINUTE DRIVE TIME = ATHLETICS AND GOLF COURSES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are several factors to consider in setting a standard for outdoor sports facilities. In particular, the range of facilities that lie within this typology makes it difficult to set a meaningful standard that can be applied across the board as per PPG17 requirements. For example, residents have significantly different expectations for synthetic turf pitches (to which they are willing to travel further) than they do for grass pitches (where there is a presumption of more localised provision). Findings from local consultation suggest three standards should be set. A walk time standard has been set for grass pitches, tennis courts, bowling green and synthetic pitches, while a drive time has been set for golf courses and athletics. These standards have been recommended in line with the expected travel methods and to reflect the specialist nature of this typology, with all facility types not expected to be provided locally. Expectations appear to be slightly higher in terms of pitches than other types of facility. The third quartile for pitches is 15 minutes while the third quartile for all other facility types is 20 minutes. The third quartile level for tennis courts, bowling greens and synthetic pitches is higher (20 minutes) and it is therefore recommended that a standard is set at this level for these facility types. While the modal responses and average responses indicate that there are higher expectations from those who walk, it is important to balance these expectations with the delivery of quality and fit for purpose facilities. Consultation indicates that this is as important as localised facilities and indeed consultation also suggests that many residents drive to sports facilities. The provision of accessible facilities at school sites will be instrumental in the effective delivery of expectations surrounding outdoor sports facilities. In light of the expectation that residents will drive to golf courses and athletics, a drive time standard (or public transport time) is suggested. This will ensure that residents are within an appropriate distance threshold of a golf course without placing unduly onerous demands on the Council for additional provision.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Applying provision standards

8.58 Given the broad nature of the outdoor sports facilities typology within PPG17, standards should only be applied to provide an indication of planning need. In light of the demand-led nature of each type of facility, specific studies identifying the nature of facilities required should be carried out to provide a further basis for informed decision making.

8.59 The application of the recommended quality, quantity and accessibility standards helps to understand the existing distribution of outdoor sports facilities and identify areas where provision is insufficient to meet local need.

8.60 The quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those deficiencies are of high importance. Applying the standards together is a more meaningful method of analysis than applying the standards separately.

8.61 Table 8.10 below summarises the application of the quantity standard for outdoor sports facilities. As highlighted, the broad range of facilities included within this typology means that the application of a quantity standard provides only an indication of provision. The type of facility that is most appropriate for a given area will be derived from expressed demand and local participation trends. These decisions would be made on a site by site basis locally.

Table 8.10 – Application of quantity standard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Current balanced against local standard (1.68 hectares per 1000 population)</th>
<th>Future balanced against local standard – Scenario a (1.68 hectares per 1000 population)</th>
<th>Future balanced against local standard – Scenario b (1.68 hectares per 1000 population)</th>
<th>Future balanced against local standard – Scenario c (1.68 hectares per 1000 population)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>-2.28</td>
<td>-1.52</td>
<td>-3.41</td>
<td>-5.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>61.04</td>
<td>61.69</td>
<td>60.06</td>
<td>58.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carr</td>
<td>5.75</td>
<td>6.25</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>3.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park</td>
<td>-16.88</td>
<td>-15.98</td>
<td>-18.24</td>
<td>-20.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>-42.62</td>
<td>-41.71</td>
<td>-43.97</td>
<td>-46.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>-3.60</td>
<td>-2.89</td>
<td>-4.65</td>
<td>-6.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyke</td>
<td>-1.41</td>
<td>-0.81</td>
<td>-2.32</td>
<td>-3.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>5.03</td>
<td>-7.54</td>
<td>-18.94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As can be seen in table 8.10 above:

- provision at the current time is in balance with demand. However, it is insufficient to meet future population growth. But should growth Scenario A occur, where there is a population decrease, provision will exceed the minimum standards by 5 ha

- the current quantity of outdoor sports facilities in two of the seven analysis areas is adequate to meet demand

- the largest current and future shortfalls can be found in the Riverside area. These shortfalls are significantly higher than any other area of the city.

These calculations do not take into account the targeted 1% increase in participation per annum. If this was to occur, unmet demand would increase. As highlighted, in light of the range of facilities included within this typology, consideration should be given to the application of the quantity standard for broad planning need only.

The application of the local accessibility standards for outdoor sports facilities is set out overleaf in Maps 8.2–8.8.
Map 8.2 – Provision of outdoor sports facilities in Hull
Map 8.3 – Provision of grass pitches in Hull
Map 8.4 – Provision of bowling greens in Hull

Bowling greens
SECTION 8 – OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

Map 8.5 – Provision of tennis courts in Hull
Map 8.6 – Provision of Synthetic turf pitches in Hull

Synthetic turf pitches

Based upon Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty’s Stationary Office.
Copyright Hull City Council Licence No. 100028972.
Map 8.7 – Provision of athletics tracks in Hull
Map 8.8 – Golf Courses in Hull
The key issues arising from the accessibility mapping regarding the provision of outdoor sports facilities in Hull are:

- the distribution of outdoor sports facilities across the city is comprehensive
- nearly all residents in Hull have access to a grass pitch within the recommended 15 minute walk time. Only small pockets of deficiency exist in the Riverside area
- there are some residents outside of a walk time catchment for tennis facilities, bowling greens and synthetic pitches, in particular in North Carr. All residents are within a 20 minute drive time of one of these sites
- all residents in the city have access to synthetic turf pitches within a 20 minute drive time but there are a number of areas of the city without access to a synthetic pitch within a 20 minute walk time
- nearly all residents have access to an athletics track within a 20 minute drive time
- all residents have access to a golf course within a 20 minute drivetime.

The BSF programme will generate additional outdoor sports facilities across the city which will be accessible to the local community. Additional synthetic pitches will be provided, alongside facilities for tennis and sport specific pitches.

While consideration of the distribution of facilities is important, it is important to balance the desire to ensure that all residents have local access to facilities with the logistics of providing high quality facilities. Sites containing multiple facilities are more cost effective as well as providing greater opportunities for local residents.

Additionally, it is important to consider access to sport and recreation for residents with disabilities. The provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities can play a key role in maintaining and increasing the good levels of participation for disabled residents in Hull.

This will be particularly important considering market segmentation analysis, which reveals that the most dominant market segment in Hull is 'Elsie and Arnold'. This group is made up of older residents and disability is perceived to be a major inhibitor to participation.

Therefore, the Council should seek to raise awareness of the facilities and activities that are available for residents with disabilities and consider making future open space, sport and recreation facilities DDA compliant. This should be prioritised across all facilities and not just sports facilities if targets to increase levels of physical activity are to be achieved.
Applying the quality, quantity and accessibility standards together

8.71 Quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those deficiencies are of high importance. Quality standards outline the key aspirations of local residents and provide an indication as to where sites may currently fall below expectations.

8.72 Outdoor sports facilities provide important sport and recreation opportunities for local residents and can contribute to improving participation and health. The role of many outdoor sports facilities in Hull takes on even greater importance, as many of the larger recreation grounds have a dual function as a park.

8.73 Consultation indicated that while the quantity of facilities is problematic in some areas, there is a real need to improve the quality of many existing sites. In many instances, improvements to the quality of existing sites will impact on the capacity of the facility. A facility that is able to sustain more games will serve the local community to a greater extent and indeed, a high quality facility is more likely to encourage residents to participate. Quantity is perceived to meet the needs of the local community overall and improvements to the quality of provision should therefore be prioritised.

OSF1

Protect all outdoor sports facilities from development unless it can be proven that the site is surplus to demand, or that development of one site will result in improved facilities at a nearby site. This should be incorporated through the provision of appropriate policies in the LDF.

8.74 Site visits highlighted that for existing facilities, the average site assessment score is 72% which means that there are a good standard of facilities, although there is a significant variation in the range of scores achieved. Sites have therefore been divided into quartiles according to their quality. This analysis is set out in Table 8.7 below and a selection of sites falling into each category is listed. A full list of all scores achieved during site assessments can be found within Appendix C. To fall within the top quartile, a score of 80% would be required. The division of site scores into quartiles enables quick identification of sites considered to be particularly poor.

Table 8.7 – Detailed analysis of the quality of existing sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quartile</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Above upper quartile</td>
<td>80% +</td>
<td>(100%) Costello Stadium – West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median – Upper quartile</td>
<td>75% - 80%</td>
<td>(76%) Hull and East Riding Sports Ground – Wyke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower quartile – median</td>
<td>64% - 74%</td>
<td>(66%) Sutton Cricket Club – North Carr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than lower quartile</td>
<td>64% and below</td>
<td>(60%) Bude Road Playing Fields – North Carr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8.75 Key issues relating to the quality of specific sites will be considered during the application of the standards for each of the specific types of open space. The findings of the quality assessments should be used to guide the provision of outdoor sports facilities to ensure that they are fit for the purpose that they are intended.

8.76 In addition to the quality of sites for sports participation, the role of outdoor sports facilities in terms of nature conservation and biodiversity should not be ignored. Phase 1 habitat surveys indicated that several outdoor sports facilities in Hull are high in diversity.

### OSF2

Seek to improve the quality of outdoor sports facilities, to achieve a quality score of 80% (the score required to fall within the top quartile).

Sites should meet National Governing Body criteria. This includes the provision of appropriate changing facilities.

Improvements to outdoor sports facilities should give consideration to the habitats provided at these sites and the species that are evident.

8.77 The quality of specific facility types will be considered in the sections that follow.

8.78 Although PPG17 groups together the different facility types, consideration is given to the location of each type of facility in order to understand the provision of different facilities and the issues that have been raised with regards facilities.

#### Tennis courts

8.79 All residents have access to a tennis court within a 20 minute drive time. Application of the local standard of a 20 minute walk time however indicates there are some deficiencies.

8.80 In terms of quantity, sites are unevenly distributed, with the majority of sites located in the East area (3). The remaining sites are split across four of the six areas. Although there are no sites located in North Carr the David Lloyd Centre is however located in this area. Although this is a membership-only centre, it does provide seven outdoor tennis courts.

8.81 Accessibility mapping reinforces this, highlighting that the main areas outside of the appropriate catchment for a tennis court are:

- North Carr area (although this deficiency is met to an extent by David Lloyd)
- Sutton and Ings wards
- Riverside area
- South of Park area
- West area of Hull.

8.82 Consultation demonstrated that 41% of residents perceived there to be a shortfall of provision of tennis facilities. This was the highest of all sports.
8.83 Application of the local accessibility standard demonstrates that in the event of additional demand for tennis in the city, consideration should be given to facilities in Riverside (the only area where there are no facilities) and North Carr (where there are no public facilities). Prior to the provision of facilities, in light of the demand nature of sport, consideration should be given to whether there is sufficient demand to justify provision. Alternatively, consideration should be given to the provision of a new site and the subsequent implementation of development work to generate interest for tennis in that area of the city.

8.84 The BSF scheme will see a specialist centre provided at Pickering High School and a further 8 court facility at Kelvin Hall School to the west of the city. This will further enhance the quantity and quality of provision in the city and will reduce deficiencies in this area.

8.85 While the short term focus should be placed on increasing access to sites (through the development of green linkages as well as appropriate programming) and enhancing the quality of existing tennis courts in the city, additional provision should be considered in light of the findings of the household survey, which demonstrated perceived shortfalls of tennis courts.

8.86 In areas where there is a demand for increased provision, the use of school sites should be considered to address this demand. Alternatively, tennis facilities should be located on park sites to encourage informal access and casual play.

8.87 There are increasing links between clubs and schools, which try to encourage more residents to play tennis. As well as club provision, it is essential to ensure that there are casual play opportunities to facilitate informal participation. Given that tennis is one of the priority sports of the sports development team this year, demand is likely to increase.

| OSF3 | Increase access and enhance the quality of existing tennis courts in the city. Use the findings of the site assessments to identify poor quality sites in need of improvement. Improve public transport links to maximise access to sites and work with clubs to promote public interest in tennis and ensure that facilities are accessible to all. Identify opportunities to provide new facilities in areas where residents are currently outside of the appropriate catchment for a tennis court. |
8.88 It is evident that the provision of bowling greens is higher in the west of the city than in the east. There are no facilities in the North Carr area. Application of the accessibility standard demonstrates that there are some areas where residents are out of the appropriate catchment for a facility, specifically:

- North Carr area
- Southcoates and Marfleet wards
- Myton ward.

8.89 Residents in the Myton ward have good access to indoor bowls centre.

8.90 The majority of bowling greens in the city are publicly accessible and are mainly located within parks and gardens. Given that the dominant group of residents in the city fall within the ‘Elsie and Arnold’ category, a group which are predisposed to participate in bowls, the appropriate provision of bowls could contribute to the achievement of increases in levels of physical activity.

8.91 Local consultation indicates that the provision of bowling greens is generally perceived to be sufficient. There was limited expressed demand evident during workshops or drop in sessions. In light of the distribution of current sites, investigation into the demand for bowling greens should be targeted at areas currently outside of the threshold for provision, particularly North Carr.

8.92 Outside areas where provision is limited, qualitative improvements should be targeted to ensure that facilities are as inviting as possible for local residents. Site assessments revealed that some existing sites are suffering from vandalism and graffiti, however in contrast some facilities are of particularly high standard.

8.93 Further, consideration should be given to the provision of appropriate public transport links to maximise access to bowling greens. While not all residents are within a 20 minute walk time of a bowling green, all areas of Hull are within 20 minutes of a facility when travelling by public transport.

**OSF4**

Focus on increasing access to existing publicly accessible bowling greens in the city through the provision of appropriate public transport links. Seek to enhance the quality of existing sites, aiming to achieve a quality score of 83%.

Provide new bowling greens in areas devoid of facilities, should appropriate demand be identified.

8.94 There is a comprehensive distribution of synthetic turf pitches in the city, with at least one site located in five of the seven analysis areas. The greatest number of sites can be found in the Northern area (5). However, no sites are located in the East and North Carr areas.

8.95 All residents in Hull have access to a synthetic turf pitch within a 20 minute drive time. When considering access to facilities on foot, it can be seen that although the distribution of synthetic facilities is even, there are some areas where residents do not have access to facilities. Key areas of existing deficiency include:
8.96 The BSF programme will see an increase in the quantity of synthetic pitches provided with facilities proposed at several sites, including two at Andrew Marvell School in the east of the city and two at Northern Academy in the west. It is intended that the facilities provided will be a mixture of 3g and sand-based. The proposed sites at Andrew Marvell School and Archbishop Semantu will offset deficiencies to the east of the city. A synthetic facility at Kelvin Hall School would ensure that all residents in the west had access to facilities. Additionally, a facility at Kingswood College of Arts in North Carr would offset deficiencies in this area.

8.97 It can therefore be seen that the proposed provision of synthetic pitches through the BSF programme is likely to offset most deficiencies in the city. Remaining deficiencies would be too small to generate the need for additional provision.

8.98 The type of facility was a key issue arising for sports clubs, with hockey clubs indicating that 3g pitches are unsuitable for hockey and that there is a need to ensure an appropriate balance between the surfaces. The Football Association (FA) indicate that in order to facilitate the development of football in the area a minimum of two synthetic 3g pitches (one each side of the city) should be provided.

8.99 Current proposals indicate that demand for 3g pitches will be met as part of the BSF programme.

8.100 The quality of synthetic turf pitches in the city was perceived to be average by sports clubs. However, synthetic turf pitches within parks were considered to be poor quality due to a lack of maintenance and investment. The majority of school synthetic turf pitches were identified as being of good quality and specifically Hull University synthetic turf pitch was identified as a high quality site. The facility at Rosemead is however highlighted as nearing the end of its lifespan. Site visits also indicated that some of the fencing surrounding synthetic pitches was deteriorating.

8.101 Access to pitches at peak times was also highlighted as a key issue for clubs with demand believed to outstrip supply at peak times at the higher quality sites.

8.102 Given the projected investment in the stock of synthetic pitches through the BSF programme and the impact that the new facilities will have on meeting demand and access to sites, the focus on the existing facilities should be on qualitative improvements. A sinking fund should be set aside to ensure that facility surfaces can be replaced as sites reach the end of their lifespan.
8.103 The main issue arising through consultation with both sports clubs and the general public with regards synthetic pitches related to access. Over half of clubs responding to the sports club survey indicated that the cost of using synthetic pitches was prohibitive and this was also raised at the clubs workshop and the HDF workshop session. Use of synthetic facilities for training by football clubs in particular is essential if sports halls are to be made available for other sports.

OSF6

Ensure that the pricing structure facilitates access to synthetic pitches for all sectors of the community.

8.104 In addition, clubs also raised the need for social facilities if synthetic pitches were intended to be used as a home base for a team. Changing facilities should also be provided in close proximity to the site.

Athletics

8.105 The Costello Stadium is the main athletics facility in Hull. This facility recently underwent major improvements with a newly refurbished 8 lane floodlit athletics track and a new throwing facility that is currently under development. The stadium is home to two local athletics clubs and the facilities now comply with DDA regulations.

8.106 The facility is located to the far west of the city in the West area. The majority of residents of Hull have access to this facility within the recommended 20 minute drive time. However there are some residents to the east who are outside of the appropriate drive time catchment.

8.107 Proposals as part of the BSF programme consider the provision of an athletics track (250m J track) in the east of the city at Andrew Marvell College. Provision of an athletics facility at this site would ensure that all residents are within the appropriate catchment area of an athletics track and no further provision would be required in the city.

8.108 Due to the high quality of the existing facility at Costello Stadium and based on the assumption that an additional facility will be provided through the BSF programme, there are no additional requirements for athletics at this stage. Instead, the quality of existing facilities should be maintained.

OSF7

Maintain the quality of existing athletics tracks.
Golf Courses

8.109 Golf courses in Hull are particularly important in terms of biodiversity as well as providing residents with the opportunity to play golf.

8.110 Consultation demonstrates that residents are satisfied with the quantity of golf courses in the city, although there is significantly less provision per 1000 population than in other areas. This is influenced by the close proximity of golf courses that fall outside of the city boundary, but are still accessible to Hull residents (highlighted within Map 8.8).

8.111 Over half of the respondents to the household survey indicate that they have no opinion regarding the provision of golf courses. This suggests that there is a lack of demand for golf courses in Hull.

Grass pitches

8.112 Analysis of the provision of outdoor sports facilities in the city indicates that there are 133 outdoor sports facility sites that contain grass pitches. The majority of these sites however, are educational facilities that only provide limited public access. Clubs indicate that the majority of schools permit community use of their facilities to some degree.

8.113 The quality of grass pitches in Hull was one of the overriding themes of consultation. Key issues arising are:

- lack of drainage at sites in areas prone to flooding
- poor quality changing accommodation
- high quality changing accommodation at sites where pitch quality is very poor (particularly evident in the west of the city)
- proximity of pitches to changing facilities and social accommodation
- vandalism and misuse at sites
- lack of floodlighting (particularly relating to rugby union)
- changing demands for pitches arising from an increase in the number of female teams.

8.114 Overall, improvements to the quality of pitches were perceived to be of far greater importance than the provision of additional facilities, although there are a few exceptions.

OSF8

Seek to enhance the quality of existing playing pitches in Hull. Use the findings from site assessments and consultation to draw up a rolling programme of improvements. Access to higher quality facilities will be essential if residents are to be encouraged to participate in sport and physical activity.
8.115 In light of the demand-led nature of demand for sports, specific assessments detailing the actual supply and demand for each facility type should be carried out, particularly to accurately determine the need for additional pitches. Key issues arising with regards the quantity of pitch provision are:

- there is a lack of appropriate cricket facilities in the city which inhibits participation. The majority of clubs have to travel outside of the city boundaries in order to find adequate provision
- there are shortfalls of rugby league pitches. However, some clubs in East Riding are using facilities in Hull which restricts opportunities for Hull-based clubs
- there are few issues with regards the number of grass football pitches. Demand is balanced between Saturday and Sunday and all teams who wish to access a pitch are able to secure a site.

**OSF9**

Address specific shortfalls in pitch provision, including rugby league and cricket pitches. In order to maximise the use of resources, focus on the provision of appropriate facilities at school sites.

8.116 The provision of grass pitches in each of the analysis areas will be the main point of the discussion for the remainder of the application of the standards. Grass pitches serve not only a recreational purpose, but are also instrumental in providing informal opportunities and often double up as parks. In Hull, in light of the profile of the population, appropriate provision for pitch sports is particularly important. This is reinforced by the Sport England market segmentation data, which indicates the dominant population groups of “Kev” and “Jamie” both enjoy playing team sport, and in particular football.

8.117 The analysis below considers the supply of sports pitches in each area of the city and the potential implications of the BSF programme. As pitches are the largest facility type within the outdoor sports facility categorisation, it is also relevant to consider the application of the quantity standard.

**East area**

8.118 Application of the quantity standard reveals that there is insufficient provision of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future demand. Although there is insufficient provision of outdoor sports facilities to meet future demand, accessibility mapping indicates that all residents in the East area have access to a grass pitch within the recommended 10 minute walk time.

8.119 The majority of grass pitches in the East area are school sites and therefore offer limited public access. However, Ings Road Playing Fields (3.80 hectares), Alderman Kneeshaw Recreation Ground (10.96 hectares) and Longhill Playing Fields (9.42 hectares) are Council-owned facilities. These sites are publicly accessible and Alderman Kneeshaw Recreation Ground is the largest site in the area. These three sites are well distributed and provide local access to the majority of residents.
SECTION 8 – OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

Figure 8.3 – Council owned grass pitches in the East area

8.120 The East area will benefit significantly from improved provision through the BSF programme with potential for hockey and football provision at Andrew Marvel College.

Northern area

8.121 The highest quantity of outdoor sports facilities is located in the Northern area (116.36 hectares) and quantitative analysis reveals that there is sufficient provision of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future demand. Accessibility mapping illustrates this adequate level of provision, with all residents in the area having access to a grass pitch within the recommended catchment.

8.122 Of the 24 grass pitch sites in the area, only three sites are Council-owned. One of these sites is Princess Elizabeth Playing Fields and this is part of the Northern Academy Development Programme. If this programme goes ahead this site will be enhanced with higher quality facilities, including grass pitches. Oak Road Playing Fields and Dane Park will therefore be particularly important in this area of the city. Due to the low number of publicly accessible grass pitches in the area, access to school facilities will also be important.

8.123 The BSF programme will see improvements to the quantity and quality of facilities at the Northern Academy and St Mary’s School. There is potential that high quality facilities for cricket training and football will be provided in this area.

North Carr area

8.124 Application of the quantity standard indicates that there is adequate provision of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future demand. Accessibility mapping illustrates this sufficient provision with all residents in the area having access to a grass pitch within the recommended 15 minute walk time.
8.125 Within the North Carr area there is a significant number of publicly accessible grass pitches. These sites are well distributed across the area and provide local access to a grass pitch for a large number of residents in the North Carr area.

8.126 The quality of publicly accessible grass pitches in the area is varying and Ennerdale Playing Fields (40%) is a site in need of significant improvement. This highlights room for improvement and site assessments reveal that Ennerdale Playing Fields has the potential to be an excellent site. Therefore the Council should focus on enhancing the quality of publicly accessible grass pitches in the area. Increasing access to publicly accessible grass pitches will also be important.

8.127 The BSF programme will see the redevelopment of Kingswood College of Arts. This is likely to generate improved provision for football.

Park area

8.128 Accessibility mapping highlights that all residents are within the recommended catchment of a grass pitch. Despite this high level of access to grass pitches, application of the quantity standard indicates that there is insufficient provision of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future demand.

8.129 23 grass pitch sites are located in the Park area, although only a minority of these sites have full public access. East Park and Pelican Park are located in this area and provide a number of sporting and recreational opportunities to local residents, with football, tennis, cricket and bowling facilities provided at these sites.

8.130 The BSF programme indicates that Archbishop Thurstan School and Malet Lambert School are identified for improvement. Both of these sites will offer community use and when completed these sites will provide high quality facilities that will represent a significant upgrade from the existing facility stock.

Riverside area

8.131 The largest quantitative shortfall of outdoor sports facilities is located in the Riverside area. Application of the quantity standard reveals that there is insufficient provision to meet current and future demand, with a shortfall of 43.97 hectares expected by 2026 (Scenario b). Despite a large quantitative shortfall of outdoor sports facilities in the area, accessibility mapping indicates that nearly all residents have access to a grass pitch. Only a small number of residents located in the south of the Myton ward are outside the catchment of a grass pitch (Figure 8.4).
8.132 The greatest number of grass pitches is located in this area of the city (25), however the average size of a site is small (1.28 hectares). This is a reason for the large quantitative shortfall in the area.

8.133 The quality of grass pitches in the area is varied and in particular, publicly accessible sites are of poor quality in this area of the city.

**West area**

8.134 Quantitative analysis indicates that there is insufficient provision of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future demand. However, application of the accessibility standard reveals that all residents in the West area have access to a grass pitch within a 15 minute walk time.

8.135 The lowest number of grass pitches is found in the West area (12). However, Costello Park (16.40 hectares) is the second largest grass pitch site in the city. This site is publicly accessible and provides six football pitches, three cricket pitches, four bowling greens and 11 tennis courts. Costello Stadium is also situated next to this site.

8.136 Costello Park is located in the centre of the West area in the Boothferry ward and the wide range of outdoor sports facilities provided make this site a focal point of the community. The current quality score of this site is 78%, highlighting room for improvement.

**Wyke area**

8.137 Accessibility mapping illustrates that nearly all residents in the Wyke area have access to a grass pitch within the recommended 15 minute walk time. Only a small number of residents in the north-east of the Newland ward cannot access a grass pitch. However, due to this area being industrial land there is not a requirement for a grass pitch. Despite a high level of accessibility, application of the quantity standard indicates that there is insufficient provision to meet current and future demand.
8.138 The distribution of pitches in the Wyke area is poor with the majority of sites located in the west of the area. The only publicly accessible grass pitches are also located in this area meaning that there is restricted public access to grass pitches for residents in the east of Wyke area.

8.139 The quality of grass pitches in the Wyke area is good.

Summary

8.140 Outdoor sports facilities are a wide ranging category of open space which includes both natural and artificial surfaces for sport and recreation. Facilities can be owned and managed by councils, sports associations, schools and individual sports clubs, with the primary purpose of participation in outdoor sports. Examples include:

- playing pitches
- athletics tracks
- bowling greens
- tennis courts.

8.141 PPG17 considers the provision of all the different types of outdoor sport facilities as one and does not break down the typology into more detailed assessments for each sport. However, for the purpose of this study, each sport has been considered individually. The demand-led nature of outdoor sports facilities, however, means that specific studies (such as a playing pitch strategy) should be undertaken in order to accurately define shortfalls and surpluses. The local quantity standard should be used for broad planning purposes only. Future decision making should draw upon local sport specific demand-led assessments.

8.142 Consultation highlights issues with both the quantity and quality of facilities. However the quality of facilities was the overriding issue. General maintenance, drainage and poor quality changing facilities were highlighted as the main areas for improvement.

8.143 There is a good distribution of outdoor sports facilities across the city with most residents able to reach facilities within the appropriate catchment. There are some deficiencies in access to bowling greens and tennis courts and provision in areas devoid of existing facilities should be considered. New facilities planned as part of the BSF programme are likely to address many of the deficiencies in synthetic turf pitches.

8.144 The enhancement of the quality of existing outdoor sports facilities should be prioritised. In order to ensure that the adequacy of the quantity of facilities is maintained, it is important to ensure that community use of facilities is maximised. The BSF and extended schools programme will contribute to the achievement of this goal and the BSF programme will see the creation of significantly improved facilities.

8.145 It is therefore recommended that the key priorities for the future delivery of provision for outdoor sports facilities in Hull, that should be addressed through the Hull Development Framework and/or other delivery mechanisms, are:

- protect all outdoor sports facilities from development unless it can be proven that the replacement of a facility will result in a higher quality facility in a nearby location
• seek to improve the quality of outdoor sports facilities. Sites should meet National Governing Body criteria. This includes the provision of appropriate changing facilities. Improvements made to outdoor sports facilities should give consideration to the habitats provided and the species that are evident.

• focus on enhancing the quality of existing tennis courts in the city and provide additional facilities in areas devoid of provision if demand is evident.

• focus on increasing access to existing publicly accessible bowling greens in the city. Seek to enhance the quality of existing sites.

• prioritise improvements to the quality of synthetic pitches and ensure that the pricing structure for these sites is accessible to all sectors of the community.

• address issues surrounding the quality of grass pitches through a detailed programme of improvement focusing on ancillary accommodation and drainage.

• allocate new sites to meet identified deficiencies in rugby league and cricket.

• facilitate the delivery of the proposals of the BSF programme through the planning system and maximise community use of the resulting facilities.

• review the implications of population growth and changes in the participation profile on the demand for facilities.